

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 2-5, 12-14, 16, and 17 are amended and Claims 1, 11, and 15 are cancelled without prejudice, thereby leaving Claims 6-10 unchanged. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of Claims 6-10 and indication that Claims 5, 14, and 16 include allowable subject matter.

Allowable Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, newly-independent Claim 5 is allowable. Claims 2-4 depend from allowable independent Claim 5 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Allowable Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, newly-independent Claim 14 is allowable. Claims 12 and 13 depend from allowable independent Claim 14 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

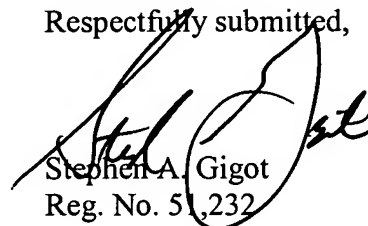
Allowable Claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, newly-independent Claim 16 is allowable. Claim 17 depends from allowable independent Claim 16 and is allowable for the same and other reasons.

Claims 1-4, 11-13, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,584,785. As mentioned above, Claims 1, 11, and 15 have been cancelled and Claims 2-4, 12-13, and 17 have been amended to depend from allowable claims 5, 14, and 16, respectively.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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